

# Y.

## YAW

**Y**, At the beginning of words, is a consonant; at the end, and when it follows a consonant, is a vowel, and has the sound of *i*. It is used at the end of words, and whenever two *i*'s would come together; and in words derived from the Greek, to express the *v*. *Y* was much used by the Saxons, whence *y* is found for *i* in the old English writers.

**YACHT**, *n. f.* A small ship for carrying passengers.

**YARD**, *n. f.* [zeap, Saxon.]

1. Inclosed ground adjoining to an house.  
One of the lions leaped down into a neighbour's yard, where, nothing regarding the crowing of the cocks, he eat them up.  
*Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
Xanthus one day sent Æsop into the yard, and bade him look well about him.  
*E'strange.*  
His wanton kids with budding horns prepar'd,  
Fight harmless battles in his homely yard.  
*Dryden.*
2. [zeap, Saxon.] A measure of three feet.  
A peer, a counsellor, and a judge, are not to be measured by the common yard, but by the pole of special grace. *Bacon.*  
The arms, spread cross in a straight line, and measured from one end of the long finger on one hand, to that of the other; made a measure equal to the stature, and is named a fathom. Half of that, viz. from the end of the long finger of either arm, so spread, to the middle of the breast is, with us, called a yard.  
*Holder on Time.*  
An aqueduct of a Gothick structure, that conveys water from mount St. Francis to Spoleto, from the foundation of the lowest arch to the top, is two hundred and thirty yards. *Add.*
3. The supports of the sails.  
A breeze from shore began to blow;  
The sailors ship their oars, and cease to row;  
Then hoist their yards a-trip, and all their sails  
Let fall to court the wind.  
*Dryden.*

**YARDWAND**, *n. f.* [yard and wand.] A measure of a yard.

All the revolutions in nature can give it nothing more than different degrees of dimensions. What affinity has thinking with such attributes? no more than there is between a syllable and a yardwand.

**YARE**, *adj.* [zeap, Saxon.] Ready; dextrous; eager.  
*Yare, yare, good Iros, quick; — methinks I hear*  
*Antony call.* *Shakep. Ant. and Cleopatra.*  
I do desire to learn, Sir; and I hope, if you have occasion to use me for your turn, you shall find me yare. *Shakep.peare.*

**YARELY**, *adv.* [from yare.] Dextrously; skilfully.  
The filken tackle,  
Swell with the touches of those flower-soft hands  
That yarely frame the office. *Shakep. Ant. and Cleop.*

**YARN**, *n. f.* [zeap, Saxon.] Spun wool; woollen thread.  
You would be another Penelope; yet they say, all the yarn she spun in Ulysses's absence, did but fill Ithaca full of moths. *Shakep. Coriolanus.*

The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together; our virtues would be proud, if our faults whipt them not; and our crimes would despair, if they were not cherish'd by our virtues. *Shakep.peare.*

Yarn is a commodity very proper to this country, which of all others ought to be most encouraged. *Temple.*  
It may be useful for the reeling of yarn. *Wilkins.*  
The fates but only spin the coarser clue,  
The finest of the wool is left for you.  
Spare me but one small portion of the twine,  
And let the sisters cut below your line:  
The rest among the rubbids may they sweep,  
Or add it to the yarn of some old miser's heap.  
*Dryden.*

**TO YARR**, *v. n.* [from the sound, *harr*, Lat.] To growl, or snarl like a dog.

**YARROW**, *n. f.* A plant which grows wild on the dry banks, and is used in medicine.

**YAWL**, *n. f.* A little vessel belonging to a ship, for convenience of passing to and from it.

## YEA

**TO YAWN**, *v. n.* [zeon, Saxon.]

1. To gape; to oscitate; to have the mouth opened involuntarily by fumes, as in sleepiness.  
The sad-eyed justice, with his surly hum,  
Delivering o'er to executors pale  
The lazy, yawning drone. *Shakep. Hen. V.*  
In yawning, the inner parchment of the ear is extended.  
When a man yawneth, he cannot hear so well. *Bacon.*  
At length shook off himself, and ask'd the dame;  
And asking yawn'd, for what intent she came? *Dryden.*  
To whom the yawning pilot fast asleep,  
Me didst thou bid, to trust the treacherous deep? *Dryden.*
2. To open wide.  
The gaffes,  
That bloodily did yawn upon his face. *Shakep.peare.*  
'Tis now the very witching time of night,  
When churchyards yawn.  
Now will I dam up this thy yawning mouth,  
For swallowing up the treasure of the realm. *Shakep.*  
He shall cast up the wealth by him devour'd,  
Like vomit, from his yawning entrails pour'd. *Sandy.*  
Hell at last  
Yawning receiv'd them whole, and on them clos'd. *Milton.*  
The sword pierc'd his tender fides;  
Down fell the beauteous youth; the yawning wound  
Gush'd out a purple stream. *Dryden.*  
High she rear'd her arm, and with her sceptre struck  
The yawning cliff: from its disparted height  
Adown the mount the gushing torrent ran. *Prior.*
3. To express desire by yawning.  
The chiefest thing at which lay-reformers yawn, is, that the clergy may, through conformity in condition, be poorer as the apostles were. In which one circumstance, if they imagine to great perfection, they must think that church which hath such store of mendicant friars, a church in that respect most happy. *Hosker.*

**YAWN**, *n. f.* [from the verb.] Oscitation.  
Thee, Paridel, the mark'd thee, there  
Stretch'd on the rack of a too easy chair;  
And heard thy everlasting yawn confess  
The pains and penalties of idleness. *Pope's Dunciad.*

2. Gape; hiatus.  
Hence to the borders of the marsh they go,  
That mingles with the baleful streams below;  
And sometimes with a mighty yawn, 'tis said,  
Opens a dismal passage to the dead,  
Who, pale with fear, the rending earth survey,  
And startle at the sudden flash of day. *Addison.*

**YAWNING**, *adj.* [from yawn.] Sleepy; slumbering.  
Ere to black Hecate's summons  
The shard-born beetle, with his drowsy hums,  
Hath rung night's yawning peal, there shall be done  
A deed of dreadful note. *Shakep. Macbeth.*

**Y'CLAD**, *part. for clad.* Cloathed.  
Her sight did ravish, but her grace in speech,  
Her words yelad with wisdom's majesty.  
Make me from wond'ring fall to weeping joys. *Shakep.*

**Y'CLEP'D**, [The participle passive of *clepe*, to call; clepan, Saxon; with the increasing particle *y*, which was used in the old English in the preterites and participles, from the Saxon *ge*.] Called; termed; named.  
But come, thou goddess, fair and free,  
In heav'n yelap'd Euphrosine,  
And by men, heart-easing mirth. *Milton.*

**YDRA'D**, The old pret. of *draw*.

**YE**, The nominative plural of *thou*.

**YE** are they which justify yourselves. *Luke xvi. 15.*

**YEA**, *adv.* [ea, or gea, Saxon; ja, Danish, German, and Dutch.] Yes. A particle of affirmation.  
I am weary; yea, my memory is tir'd. *Shakep.peare.*  
A rascally, yea, forsooth, knave, to bear a gentleman in hand, and then stand upon security. *Shakep.peare.*

## YEA

From these Philippinae are brought costly spices, yea, and gold too? *Abb't's Description of the World.*  
*Yea*, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree in the garden. *Gen. iii. 1.*  
Let your conversation be yea, yea; nay, nay. *Matth. v.*  
All the promises of God are yea, and amen; that is, are verified, which is the importance of yea, and confirmed, which is meant by amen, into an immutability. *Hammond.*  
They durst abide  
Jehovah thund'ring out of Sion, thron'd  
Between the cherubim; yea, often plac'd  
Within his sanctuary itself their shrines. *Milton.*  
Why do disputes in wrangling spend the day?  
Whilst one says only yea, and t'other nay. *Denham.*  
Notwithstanding this great proximity of man to himself; yea, and notwithstanding the observations made in all ages, we still remain ignorant of many things concerning ourselves. *Hale.*

**TO YEAD**, or **YEDE**, *v. n.* preterite *yede*. [This word seems to have been corruptly formed from *geob*, the Saxon preterite of *gan*.] To go; to march. Obsolete.  
They wander at will, and stay at pleasure,  
And to their folds yead at their own leisure. *Spenser.*  
Then had the knight this lady yede aloof,  
And to an hill her self withdrew aside,  
From whence the might behold that battle's proof,  
And eke be safe from danger far desir'd. *Fairy Queen.*  
Yet for the yede therat half aghast,  
And Kiddy the door spar'd after her fast. *Spenser.*  
That fame mighty man of God,  
That bloud red billows like a wall'd front,  
On either side disparted with his rod,  
'Till that his army dry-foot through them yed. *Spenser.*

**TO YEARN**, *v. n.* [canian, Saxon.] To bring young Used of sheep.  
The skilful shepherd pecl'd me certain wands;  
He struck them up before the fulsome ewes,  
Who, then conceiving, did in yearning time  
Fole party-colour'd lambs. *Shakep.peare.*  
So many days my ewes have been with young;  
So many weeks, ere the poor fools will yearn. *Shakep.peare.*  
This I scarcely drag along,  
Who yearning on the rocks has leit her young. *Dryden.*  
Ewes year the polled lamb with the least danger. *Mortimer.*

**YEANLING**, *n. f.* [from *yearn*.] The young of sheep.  
All the yearlings which were streak'd and pied,  
Should fall as Jacob's hire. *Shakep.peare.*

**YEAR**, *n. f.* [zeap, Saxon.]

1. One by the word year mean twelve months of thirty days each, i. e. three hundred and sixty days; another intend a solar year of three hundred sixty-five days; and a third mean a lunar year, or twelve lunar months, i. e. three hundred fifty-four days, there will be a great variation and error in their account of things, unless they are well apprized of each other's meaning. *Watts's Logick.*  
See the minutes, how they run:  
How many makes the hour full compleat,  
How many hours bring about the day,  
How many days will finish up the year,  
How many years a mortal man may live. *Shakep.peare.*  
With the year  
Seasons return, but not to me returns  
Day, or the sweet approach of morn. *Milton.*  
Oviparous creatures have eggs enough at first conceived in them, to serve them for many years laying, allowing such a proportion for every year, as will serve for one or two incubations. *Roy on the Creation.*  
He accepted a curacy of thirty pounds a year. *Swift.*
2. It is often used plurally, without a plural termination.  
I fight not once in forty year. *Shakep.peare.*
3. In the plural of age.  
Some mumble-news,  
That smiles his cheek in years, and knows the trick  
To make my lady laugh when she's dispos'd,  
Told our intents. *Shakep.peare. Love's Labour Lost.*  
There died also Cecile, mother to king Edward IV. being of extreme years, and who had lived to see three princes of her body crown'd, and four murder'd. *Bacon's Hen. VII.*  
He look'd in years, yet in his years were teen,  
A youthful vigour, and autumnal green. *Dryden.*

**YE'ARLING**, *adj.* [from year.] Being a year old.  
A yearling bullock to thy name shall smoke;  
Untam'd, unconscious of the galling yoke. *Pope.*

**YE'ARLY**, *adj.* [from year.] Annual; happening every year; lasting a year.  
The yearly course that brings this day about,  
Shall never see it but a holiday. *Shakep.peare. K. John.*  
Why the changing oak should shed  
The yearly honour of his stately head;  
Whilst the distinguish'd yew is ever teen,  
Unchang'd his branch, and permanent his green. *Prior.*

**YE'ARLY**, *adv.* Annually; once a year.  
He that outlives this day, and sees old age,

## YEL

Will yearly on the vigil feast his neighbours,  
And say, tomorrow is Saint Crispian. *Shakep.peare. Hen. V.*  
For numerous blessings yearly shower'd,  
And property with plenty crown'd;  
For freedom still maintain'd alive;  
For these, and more, accept our pious praise. *Dryden.*

**TO YEARN**, *v. n.* [canian, Saxon.] To feel great internal uneasiness. In *Spenser* it is sometimes *earn*.  
He despis'd to tread in due degree,  
But chaf'd, and foam'd, with courage fierce and stern,  
And to be eas'd of that base burden still did yearn. *Spenser.*  
Make the libbard stern  
Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn. *Spenser.*  
Though peeping close into the thick,  
Might see the moving of some quick;  
But were it fairy, fiend, or snake,  
My courage earned it to wake,  
And manfully therat shot. *Spenser.*  
Falt'ring, he is dead,  
And we must yearn therefore. *Shakep.peare's Hen. V.*  
Joseph made haste; for his bowels did yearn upon his brother: and he fought where to weep, and he enter'd into his chamber. *Gen. xliii. 30.*

When the fair Leucothoe he spy'd,  
To check his floods, impatient Phœbus yearn'd,  
Though all the world was in his course concern'd. *Waller.*  
Yet for all the yearning pain  
Y' have suffer'd for their loves, in vain,  
I fear they'll prove so nice and coy.  
To have, and t' hold, and to enjoy. *Hudibras.*  
Where our heart does but relent, his melts; where our eye pities, his bowels yearn. *South's Sermons.*  
At beholding the miseries of others, they find such yearnings in their bowels, and such sensible commotions raised in their breasts, as they can by no means satisfy. *Catany.*  
Your mother's heart yearns towards you. *Addison.*  
Unmov'd the mind of Ithacus remain'd;  
But Anticles, unable to controul,  
Spoke loud the language of his yearning soul. *Pope.*

**TO YEARN**, *v. a.* To grieve; to vex.  
She laments for it, that it would  
Yern your heart to see it. *Shakep.peare.*

**YEST**, *n. f.* [zeap, Saxon.]

1. The foam, spume, or flower of beer in fermentation; barm. *Yeast* and outward means do fail,  
And have no power to work on ale. *Hudibras.*  
When drays bound high, they never cross behind,  
Where bubbling yeast is blown by gulls of wind. *Goy.*
2. The spume on a troubled sea.  
Now the ship being the moon with her main-mast, and anon swallow'd with yeast and froth, his you'd thrust a cork into a hoghead. *Shakep.peare. Winter's Tale.*

**YE'STY**, *adj.* [from yeast.] Frothy; spumy.  
Though you untie the winds, and let them fight  
Against the churches; though the yeast waves  
Confound and swallow navigation up. *Shakep.peare. Macbeth.*

**YELK**, *n. f.* [from zealepe, yellow, Saxon.] The yellow part of the egg. It is commonly pronounced, and often written *yolk*.  
The yolk of the egg conduceth little to the generation of the bird, but only to the nourishment of the same: for if a chicken be opened, when it is new hatched, you shall find much of the yolk remaining. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*  
That a chicken is formed out of the yolk of an egg, with some antient philosophers the people still opinion. *Brown.*  
All the feather'd kind,  
From th' included yolk, not ambient white arose. *Dryden.*

**TO YELL**, *v. n.* To cry out with horror and agony.  
Nor the night raven, that still deadly yells;  
Nor grisly vultures make us once affear'd. *Spenser.*  
Each new morn,  
New widows howl, new orphans cry; new sorrows  
Strike heav'n on the face, that it refoinds,  
As if it felt with Scotland, and yell'd out  
Like syllables of doleour. *Shakep.peare. Macbeth.*  
Now worse than e'er he was before,  
Poor Puck doth yell, poor Puck doth roar,  
That wak'd queen Mab, who doubted fore  
Some treason had been wrought her. *Drayton's Nymphiad.*  
Yelling monsters, that with ceaseless cry  
Surround me. *Milton.*  
Night-struck fancy dreams the yelling ghost. *Thomson.*

**YELL**, *n. f.* [from the verb.] A cry of horror.  
With like tim'rous accent and dire yell,  
As when, by night and negligence, the fire  
Is spread in populous cities. *Shakep.peare's Othello.*  
Hence are heard the groans of ghosts, the pains  
Of founding lasses, and of dragging chains.  
The Trojan stood astonish'd at their cries,  
And ask'd his guide from whence those yells arise. *Dryden.*